

Thornton comments on UNB research funding

By PAT MACFARLAND

University of New Brunswick is engaged in several areas of research, funded both by the university itself and several outside agencies. In an interview,

Mr. Charles Thornton, explained the various sources of funding for researchers on campus.

Available funds can be divided into two basic areas, internal and

external. Internal financing includes the UNB Research Fund, the Academic Development Fund under the Vice-President's office, and a Canada Council General Grant of approximately \$5,000 also administered by the Vice-President.

The UNB research fund is made up of several components. It includes approximately \$25,000 from the president's research fund. This fund is granted by the NRC and based on a percentage of all operating grants from the NRC held by faculty on campus. The remaining portion of the president's fund (\$45-50,000) is under the president's jurisdiction subject to the restriction that it must be used for research in the fields of Science or Applied Science. The rest of the UNB Research Fund is comprised of approximately \$7,000 Canada Council General Grant, and University Operating Funds and revenue from university patents, totalling about \$20,000. The UNB research fund is open to all faculty

members, though emphasis is on newer faculty members. It is often used as 'seed grants' to enable a researcher to apply for external financing, as well as filling the gaps that other agencies leave.

The Academic Development fund is used mainly for faculty travel to outside libraries, field trips, etc.

Internal funding is exclusive of each department's operating budget which usually has provisions for research.

According to Thornton, the \$50,000 available internally is just a drop in the bucket. The major part of financing comes from outside sources, in the form of both grants and contracts. A grant is an amount of money provided at the request of the research to allow him to pursue his own interests, whereas contract research usually results from a congruency of interests between the agency and the researcher. Contract research is usually short-term, and often called mission-oriented research.

The bulk of grants and contracts come from government agencies. Contracting is on the increase as a result of a government policy to reduce research funding through grants. This form of financing is more competitive and does not allow the latitude that grants do. Contracts come from such agencies as the Department of the Environment and Energy, Mines and Resources.

The major part of grants to UNB come from the NRC in the form of operating, equipment, and travel grants. In 1974-75 this was approximately \$1.1 million. We also receive about \$10,000 in Canada Council Grants.

Thornton said it was difficult to measure the return from research financing. He stated that most patents that the university holds are a by-product and not an aim. Publication is primary and is often a bar to patents. The aim is to fulfill the university's responsibilities to advance knowledge and the education of students.

Health display held

Venereal Disease, supposedly well understood on campus, isn't really.

According to a recent student survey not many people know very much about this topic. A lot of people did not even know the symptoms.

Students enrolled in education's health course presented aspects of their course to the rest of campus last Wednesday. Between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. displays on venereal disease, nutrition, drugs and alcoholism and smoking were presented by groups of five or six students.

A definite attempt was made to correlate with the student situation. On the aspect of smoking, a survey of 188 students in residence, 94 of each sex showed that 25 percent smoked, 28 percent had smoked at one time but quit, and 48 percent were non-smokers. According to the survey most students, smokers and non-smok-

ers alike approved of the recently initiated no smoking rule.

Feeling that parties are not complete without a few drinks, drinking to relieve tension, and blackouts, these are the primary symptoms of alcoholism, according to the display on drug abuse and alcoholism.

The middle stages involve heavier drinking, preference of drinking to eating, and unsuccessful attempts to cut down on drinking. The display went on to say that you are hooked when you neglect eating, undergo constant depression alleviated only by booze and need less alcohol to become drunk.

The nutritional display involved pamphlets and posters giving the nutritional value of various common foods.

Interesting facts which did arise from the displays were that one cigarette takes 14 minutes of your life and every thirty seconds someone gets venereal disease.

Film to be shown

Tuesday, December second the film, "Limits of Growth", will be presented for public viewing by the Department of Geology. The showing will be in MacLaggan 105 at 7:30. There will be an introduction by Professor Grant of the Geology Department - Admission is free.

This 60 minute documentary produced by Thames Television of London, is a study of the findings of a computer survey on what will happen to the world in the next century: that the world will run out of natural resources unless the industrially advanced countries limit their growth.

The Club of Rome is a recently formed group of academics and businessmen who are perturbed by what they see as a bleak - if not disastrous - future for the human

race. They commissioned a report on the problems facing the world before the end of this century - pollution, starvation, and the population explosion. For the report a computer model was set up at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology of world resources and consumption. The results of the extrapolation of known facts and figures, shown in this documentary by Richard Broad, define the limits of world growth and chemical and physical resources. "The implications are far reaching, in fact, revolutionary," says Professor Stafford Beer. The Club of Rome Report ends with the words, "the crux of the matter is not only whether the human species will survive, but even more whether it can survive without falling into a state of worthless existence."

Scholarship fund up \$19,955

This year undergraduate scholarship money at the University of New Brunswick topped the quarter-million mark for the first time.

The \$254,955 awarded this year represents an increase of \$19,955 over last year's figure.

However, the average award per student showed a slight decrease as a result of increased enrolment.

The facts were reported to the UNB Senate recently by Frank R. Wilson, chairman of the undergraduate scholarship committee.

The Senate endorsed a recommendation that the Board of Governors make available a minimum of \$75,000 to the committee for advance entrance scholarships by January, before the total university budget is brought down. This procedure was followed last year, and 125 students accepted scholarships offered in March and April.

Heat generated

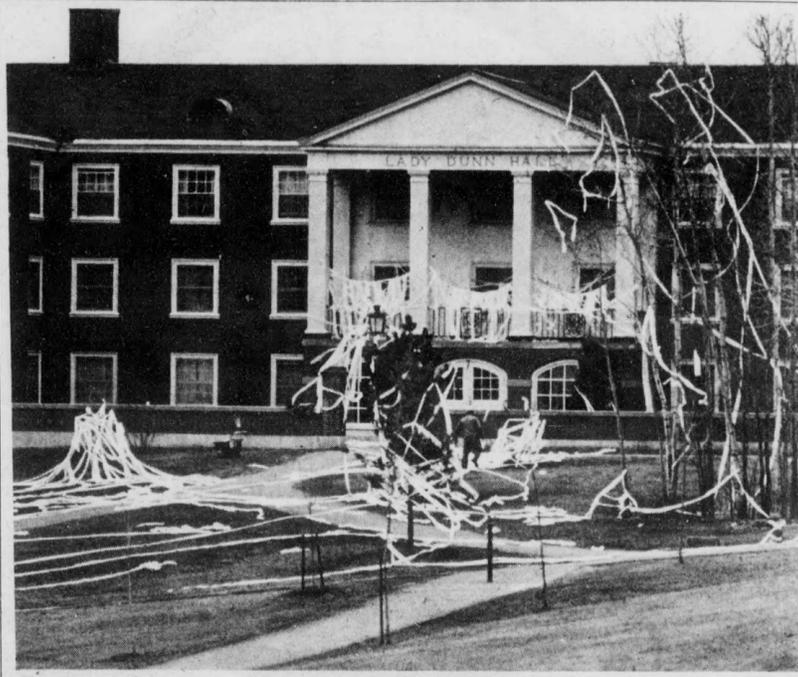
Heat was generated in the SUB ballroom recently when a forester decided to start a campfire by rubbing two brandy bottles together. His companion a student nurse was injured when the fire extinguisher was dropped on her foot.

The drunk forester survived the incident with burns and minor abrasions to his hands and face. He refused to comment on the situation except to his closest friends.

Results delayed

The Housing Survey now being supervised by Helga Stewart and Barry Thompson will not be able to meet the December deadline as previously imagined.

The close proximity of Christmas exams does not allow the students helping, the necessary time to complete the computer rundown. This however is only a minor delay and the survey will be finished in the near future.



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